

## INTRODUCTION

The gestation period of this volume took more time still than feared. The time I could spend on Pacific Plant Areas, now officially recognized as a project of the Rijksherbarium, was limited to a few days per month. But for the help of several persons as mentioned in the Acknowledgements the completion of this volume would have taken even longer.

Another drawback was that I was deprived of the help of Mrs. Van Steenis, in compiling the bibliography of published maps. This has compelled me to take some time-saving measures. A complete explanation of the bibliography and of the maps can be found in the introductions to previous volumes, but some words on the present bibliography are perhaps in order.

In previous volumes an effort was always made to find the correct author citation for every taxon. In the present bibliography author citations are given only if the author of the paper has taken the trouble to cite them. If an author citation is given I have made no effort to find out if it is correct. Likewise if the source upon which a map is based is not explicitly stated such a map is classified as 'occasional', even if the map is obviously copied for instance from the works of Good or Hutchinson.

If in a paper many maps are given of one genus, these have not been entered separately. A good example is the paper by Stevens on *Calophyllum* (p. 56) which provides maps of several species. Another example is *Alyxia* (p. 7). Boiteau gives maps of 31 species in New Caledonia. The annotation says 'partial', meaning that only part of the total area of the genus is covered; the map is, however, complete as to the 30 endemic species.

In a few cases maps have been entered covering a partial area outside the Pacific or Malesia. This always concerns taxa also occurring in the Pacific or Malesia. Examples: the maps of *Acanthaceae* in Taiwan by Hsieh & Huang (p. 1), the map of *Griselinia* in Chile by Trancoso c.s. (p. 33), and the maps of *Solanaceae* in Australia by Purdie c.s. (p. 114).

I may have missed a number of maps that appeared in periodicals or books not available to me. Readers are kindly requested to inform me of omissions.

As in previous volumes the sequence of the families is alphabetical. The broad family concept of Volume 1 is generally followed, thus the *Liliaceae* are taken '*sensu latissimo*'. This, I think, facilitates finding the references. Moreover cross references are given where appropriate. The closing date for the bibliography in this volume is February 1, 1983.

The maps in previous volumes were numbered chronologically resulting in a haphazard sequence. In the present volume the maps are arranged alphabetically according to family and genus and were numbered only after the set was complete.

In the years to come I will again solicit the help of many contributors to ensure a speedy issue of Volume 5.